# Ann Lake Water Log



### President's Letter

#### QUALITY IS JOB ONE!

Dave Maxson, President

Ann Lake Property Owners Association

Okay, so that's not original. But it's fair to say that monitoring and maintaining the quality of our lake is the primary purpose and priority of the Ann Lake Property Owners Association (ALPOA).

Since ALPOA's inception, volunteers have monitored and tested the water throughout each summer season for clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, and dissolved oxygen. We are happy to report that (a) overall results are largely unchanged since monitoring began, and (b) the quality of the water in our lake is well above average for all lakes in the state that do similar testing. That should be good news for all property owners.

In recent years, we've become increasingly aware of the risk of **INVASIVE AQUATIC VEGETATION**, such as Eurasian Water Milfoil. Other lakes in our immediate area have been "invaded". First, ALPOA volunteers developed procedures to test and identify such vegetation ourselves. Last year, in collaboration with the township, professionals were engaged to do extensive testing. We are pleased to report that, to this date, no invasive aquatic vegetation has been detected in our lake. While that should be a relief to all property owners, we must continue to be vigilant. You will find a detailed report herein.

And for 2019, we're emphasizing the benefit of a little native shoreline vegetation for the quality of the lake. The speaker for the **ANNUAL MEETING** on June 29, (in the old town hall) will be a representative from the Benzie Conservation District, who will promote the benefits and answer your questions. And the board will be awarding the first annual **GREENBELT OF THE YEAR**. Please save the date and plan to attend. You will find more details herein.

Finally, if you are already a member and have paid your dues, I thank you for helping us with job one. If you've neglected to do so, I encourage you to please consider joining the effort. You will find a membership form herein.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE 2019 BOARD:

Dave Maxson, President Kent Taylor, Vice President Kathy Garmes Taylor, Treasurer Maggie Sowers, Secretary

#### AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS:

Sven Anderson Julee Parker Susan Sharp Terry Sowers

### Loon Report by Kathy Garmes Taylor

#### Loon Report

As described in the winter newsletter, the artificial nesting platform was rebuilt over the winter. The ALPOA loon committee landscaped and launched the nest on Wednesday, May 15 at 2:00pm. The loons were there by 6:15 that evening. The loons were on and off the nest for the next week and have now stayed on the nest for the last two days (May19-20). Memorial Weekend was a good weekend in that we can start the clock for loon chicks!

To ensure the loons will remain nesting on Lake Ann it is important for all residents, visitors, renters, and friends to remain at a distance and not intrude on their nesting area. Loons need a consistent quiet, safe, environment to nest successfully. Respecting their space is imperative. Please advocate for our Ann Lake loons by educating ALL residents and visitors to the importance of respecting nature, specifically the loons.

If you rent, have any renters near you, or know of someone who rents, PLEASE spread the word that ALL humans/pets must stay away from the nest (as well as chicks which we will hopefully have by the end of the month). Loons are a threatened species and protected under Michigan Law. Harassing of loons can result in a fine up to \$1,000 plus up to 90 days in jail. But most important, it may cause the loons to abandon the nest. There is a **flyer** that you can print from the ALPOA website explaining positive behavior toward loons and how to assist efforts to attract and keep them on Lake Ann. Please help others understand human actions and consequences in relation to these beautiful birds that have chosen Lake Ann as their home.



### **Invasive Species Committee Report**

#### Invasive Species Committee Report June 2019

Little has gone on over the winter but this spring our work came to life with some important follow up:

PLM, our lake management firm, reached out to both the township and the Invasive Committee to see if we were going to hire them again



this year. Due the high level of satisfaction both the township and our committee had with their services we agreed with the township to renew the contract for 2019. The township supervisor and treasurer asked if ALPOA would be OK with signing a 3 year commitment with PLM. In other words, they were willing to commit to their share of dollars if ALPOA was as well. Once this sentiment was conveyed to the board in May, a motion was passed committing ALPOA to another 3 years of lake monitoring not to exceed \$1000 per annum (it currently stands at \$625 per year). All should be aware that a separate fund has been established to support this annual endeavor; it is called the Lake Preservation Fund. We encourage all lake residents to contribute to this fund so we can continue to support the township professionally surveying our lake for invasive aquatic plants. The form and directions are on page 8 of this newsletter.

Last year the committee conducted a fall survey to compliment the PLM survey; this was to look specifically for Starry Stonewort during its fall "flowering". None were found. This year we plan to rotate that additional survey to the spring in search of Curly Leaf Pondweed, a species whose life cycle ends by late spring early summer. These lesser surveys are valuable for the seasonal species we target which PLM would miss with their mid-summer survey. These exercises are also of value by helping us maintain our weed identification skills.

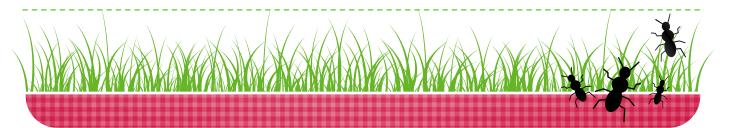
We will once again participate in the Lake Ann Days event with a booth. We would like to continue to educate the public about the invasive plant threats nearby and drive more support for the Lake Preservation Fund.

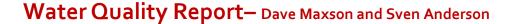
Kent Taylor Chairman

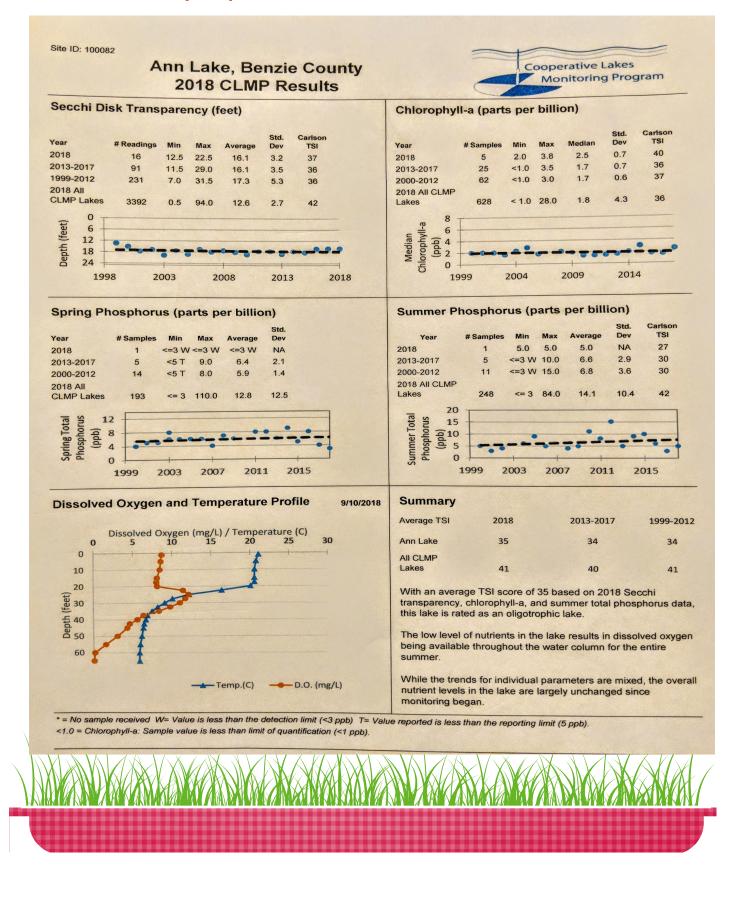
"Environment isn't asking us to conserve her for her, but for our

future generations."

Mohith Agadi







# WHY JOIN ALPOA?

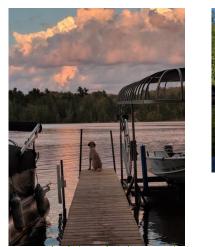
### "Conservation is humanity caring for the future." Nancy Newhall

### "Plans to protect air and water,

wilderness and wildlife, are in fact plans to protect man." S.L. Udall



"If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water." Loren Eiseley





MEMBERSHIP FORM page 8



### WHAT ALPOA DOES

- Monitors Ann Lake's water quality
- Monitors for introduction of invasive species aquatic plants
- Arranges for an action plan if invasive species are found

For more information about ALPOA check out our website: wwwannlake.org

### Treasurers Report by Kathy Grames Taylor

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Treasurer's Report

The Invasive Species Reserve, which was established in 2017 to handle the first year cost of removing an aquatic invasive, was invested in a 15 month CD which will come due in May 2020. Treatment for aquatic invasive plants normally occurs early in their growing season.

The Lake Preservation Fund was established in 2018 to handle the yearly costs of surveying for aquatic invasives. Monies donated to this fund are held separate from ALPOA operating funds. The balance of this fund is currently \$495. ALPOA's shared (with the township) annual obligation is \$625.

We began 2019 with an operating balance of \$3660.54 plus reserves. To date, we have 67 members with an income of \$2796 which includes all donations. Expenses to date are \$969.89.

View the **<u>current budget status</u>** on the website under the Treasurer's page.



### Web Report

The A.LPOA website www.annlake.org was hacked this winter and was down for about a month. It is now back up but we were only able to restore from a 2017 backup. We are in the process of bringing the website up to date.

# **ALPOA SPECIAL EVENTS 2019**

**SATURDAY JUNE 29, 12:00PM - 2:00PM:** The **Annual Meeting and Potluck.** The meeting will be held in the Almira Township Hall in downtown Lake Ann. Main entree, table ware and water will be provided. *Please bring a side dish or dessert to share*. RSVP if you are coming to Maggie Sowers **maggiesowers@icloud.com** 

**THURSDAY JULY 4, 1:00PM:** The **Annual Unofficial Boat Parade.** Gather at the big sandbar in the middle of the lake.

**SATURDAY JULY 6: ALPOA Booth at Lake Ann Homecoming Days**. This is a fun way to learn more about the work of **ALPOA**.

SATURDAY AUGUST 3, 8:00AM - 11:00 AM: 10th Annual Paddle, Pedal, Paddle, Row Around Ann Lake. There are some exciting new changes to this year's event. The event is now FREE. For those who want one, there is a special edition T-Shirt available for \$17.



**SATURDAY AUGUST 3, 12:30 PM: Pizza Party** to be held in Burnett Park in Lake Ann. Sign up for all your family members for \$5 each. Join your fellow Riparians for the festivities.

Send T-Shirt orders and pizza RSVP to Maggie Sowers or Kathy Taylor PO BOX 184 Lake Ann, MI 49650 Deadline for T-Shirt orders is July 5.

### HOW MANY ARE COMING FOR PIZZA?

\_\_\_\_X \$5 TOTAL\_\_\_\_\_ T Shirt Orders Sm\_\_\_\_Med\_\_\_Large\_\_\_\_\_ XL\_\_\_XXL\_\_\_XXXL\_\_\_\_ Youth Sm\_\_\_\_Youth Medium\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Large\_\_\_\_\_



#### **ANN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

#### Annual Membership Application Jan. 1 to Dec. 31

**Thank you for your continued support!** Dues and donations are not tax deductible. ALPOA is a 501c4 non-profit corporation but not deemed a "charitable" organization by IRS definition.

Your contributions are used to protect the quality of our lake and protect the value of our properties for the mutual benefit of all property owners.

If you are not a member or have already renewed, you can still donate to the Lake Preservation Fund. Please use this membership application when sending in your donation. Enter your donation amount on the Lake Preservation Fund line. We would also appreciate if you filled in your name and your winter, summer and email addresses. If you are not a member, we would like feedback if you are willing to tell us why not and what we might be able to do to convince you otherwise.

2019 Yearly Membership Dues 2020 Yearly Membership Dues 2021 Yearly Membership Dues Michigan Riparian Magazine Lake Preservation Fund Additional Donation	\$\$30.00NewRenewal \$\$30.00 \$\$30.00 \$\$6 donation per year required	
	\$ \$	
Total Amount Paid	\$ For calendar year 20	
PLEASE PRINT	Home Address:	
	Home Address: City	State
	City Lake Phone	
	Lake Ann, MI 49650	
	Lake Am, wii 45050	
Comments:	A: Yes Committee:	
Please mail this form and check t	o:	
P.O. Box 184		
Lake Ann, MI 49650		
OR GO TO <u>www.annlake.org</u> , sea	rch "Membership Application", pay online via PayPal, and email form to Kathyo	<u>⊅annlake.org</u>